



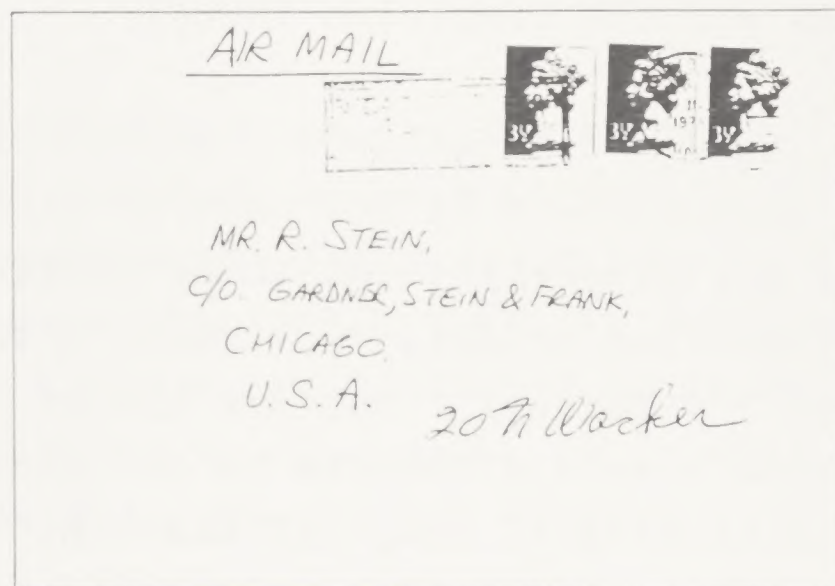
# Chairman's Newsletter

Number 31. October, 1986.

## ANNIVERSARY REFLECTIONS.

This being ISASC's 10th Anniversary, it seems appropriate to pause and reflect on the 10 years that lay behind us. What a time of growth and progress!

Memories flood my mind and I recall the introductory letter I received in June of 1974 from Michael Crawforth, who found my name in a file at the Avery Museum and trusted the U.S. post office to deliver his letter to me without my street address. (We are truly indebted to that anonymous postal employee who saw to it the letter was forwarded.)



The Crawforth/Stein friendship thrived from the beginning, and most pleausurably during our personal get-togethers. It withstood the early-on, polite but persistent pressure Michael exerted on me to live up to an earlier promise-in-print to found a scale collectors' society. Needless to say, I was unable to resist his entreaties, and ISASC came into being in the Fall of 1976. In those days, our expectations would have been satisfied with 25 or so members, neither of us daring to dream that in the years to come ISASC would grow to more than 300 strong representing 16 countries around the world!

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And then there was our first attempt at a regular member communique in the form of a revolving member-written newsletter. A well-intentioned idea but simply not practical. Now came my turn to exert pressure on Michael, in this instance to write a magazine for our members. His inspired response was EQUILIBRIUM, which since has become the cornerstone of our society and which today reposes in the libraries of several of the world's foremost museums and universities.

In those beginning days, our first convention was held in San Francisco, and the response was so enthusiastic that in the years that followed we convened in London, New York City, Delft (Holland), Chicago, Sindelfingen (Germany), Washington, D.C., and Paris.

Reflections on our growth wouldn't be complete without acknowledging the scope and diversity of our library. From the time ISASC began to reproduce out-of-print scale catalogs, books on scales and weights, and historical posters and documents, members have responded to our offerings and created their own metrology libraries, often augmenting them with back issues of EQM and the companion Index.

What a time of growth and progress! It's been a marvelous 10 years, and I look forward to the next 10 being equally memorable. How can I, or any of us, properly thank those members who contributed so much to our pioneering efforts -- Michael Crawforth, Diana Crawforth, Albert Eaches, and Tod Carley? And how can we thank those who, over the years, have lent their time and talents to our cause -- Brian Brass, Marty Bronstein, Gerald Chellingworth, Doug Dallimer, Bill Doniger, Bob Holdaway, Gerard Houben, Gene Mahoney, Bob Miller, Aimé Pommier, Utz Schmidt, Mary Thomas, and Jan Wage?

And how can I properly thank my most supportive spouse and companion, Margie, who during these past 10 years has shared ISASC with me as a labor of love and given of her considerable skills and energies in so many ways?



And finally, how can I properly thank each and every member for their collective outpouring of support over these past 10 years and their many words of encouragement and appreciation?

What a wonderful 10 years! To all of you, my best wishes for the future. ISASC's star shines ever so brightly in the sky, and each of you can bask in its reflected light.

KUDOS TO OUR EDITOR.

If you haven't yet noticed it, the current EQM is titled, "10th Anniversary Issue," and to commemorate the occasion, this issue is 32 pages in length, the extra four pages containing 22 photos of scales and weights in resplendent color. These special pages not only enhance this commemorative issue but are a tribute to the creativity of Michael Crawforth, who singlehandedly puts together each and every issue. Congratulations, Michael, for a worthy and immensely attractive effort.

GOLDEN WEEKEND.

It's now official. California, the Golden State, is our convention destination for 1987, and plans are already underway to make it an outstanding affair in every respect. The convention dates are Friday to Sunday, May 1 to 3, and the place is the famed Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim (directly across the street from the Magic Kingdom and connected to it by monorail). Our convention chairman is Jan Macho of La Canada, California, and he will be sending detailed information and registration materials to all members by mid-January (if not earlier). However, considering Southern California's great appeal, it's best that you start making your plans now, especially if you intend to make a vacation of it and take in Disneyland, Knotts Berry Farm, the Queen Mary, the Spruce Goose, Universal Studios, and other famous attractions. The hotel has given our Society a very special rate which will be offered our members for several days prior to and after the convention weekend. California, here we come!

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## GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY.

To buy scales, that is. Enclosed is the Crawforth Mini-Mart, an invitation to participate in an auction-by-mail that just might enable you to buy one or more scales or weights being offered for sale by Michael Crawforth. A complete listing is enclosed, along with a bidding guide for each item and bidding instructions. Here's a chance to add to your collection without stirring from hearth or home.

## KATZ ON KATALOGING.

Member Jerry Katz, while attending our Washington, D.C. convention, brought his photo album (as did many others) for one and all to see. As interesting as the photos were, Jerry's cataloging technique equally vied for everyone's attention. The secret of it was a catalog sheet for each scale, laid out in extremely well-organized fashion to contain all the information a collector would want to know about a given scale. Jerry generously agreed to share his methodology with us, so enclosed are two sample catalog sheets. One, done up in detail, is Jerry's original format and is so noted; the other, a blank except for headings, is Jerry's revised format, and is also so noted. For those members who haven't hit upon a comprehensive way to record scale data, here's the Katz way, complete with provision for photos, that seems to be just what the metrologist ordered. Thanks, Jerry, for the helping hand.

## SPREADING THE WORD.

Through a coincidence a bit too involved to describe in detail, Art & Antiques magazine learned of the scale collection owned by one Bob Stein, and decided to devote a brief article to it. Those of you who subscribe to or buy the publication will find it on page 28 of the October issue. Another instance of the publicity our members and their collections seem to garner from time to time.



## LAMLEIN ON LIAISONS.

One of the nicest letters we've ever received having to do with the benefits of ISASC membership came to our desk just as the Chairman's Newsletter was in its final stages. Rather than adapt it in excerpt fashion for the Newsletter, we thought it well worth sharing with you in its entirety. So -- having secured Chuck Lamlein's permission, here it is. To say it does our heart good is the understatement of the year.

103 Doud Court  
Normal, IL 61761  
October 9, 1986

Mr. Robert Stein, President  
I S A S C  
111 North Canal Street  
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Bob:

Immediately prior to our recent trip to Paris I followed your excellent suggestion and wrote to several ISASC members in the Paris area as well as Directors Michael Crawforth and Jan Wage.

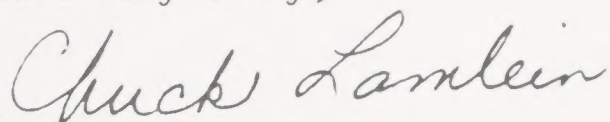
And--as you had predicted, the response was terrific. We had several letters and a phone call waiting for us at our Paris Hotel arrival--all with friendly tips and suggestions for Paris scale hunting.

We were especially pleased at the kind offer of Henri Gacon to take us to the Paris Flea Market on Sunday. We had a terrific time there with Henri and were able to add several fine scales to our collection.

In the afternoon, Henri took us to the "Mus'ee Du Conservatoire National Des Arts Et Metiers" where we were privileged to view as fine a collection of scales and weights as undoubtedly exists anywhere. Henri was a charming person and made our Sunday with him one of the trip highlights.

We came back from Paris with five new scales, but perhaps more importantly, the realization of the great comraderie of the fine people making up the ISASC membership.

Yours very truly,



Charles M. Lamlein



## ABOUT THE EUROPEAN CHAPTER.

Since its formation in late 1985, the European Chapter has been as active as one could imagine, especially when it comes to get-togethers. In addition to two regional meetings scheduled each year in the U.K., the Chapter's annual Europe-wide convention now seems to be a well-established event. This past June the 1986 affair was held in Paris, and from all accounts was a resounding success. In 1987, the event is to be held in Germany (the Cologne-Dusseldorf-Essen triangle), and to avoid conflict with our Chapter's early May convention, is scheduled for the weekend of October 2-4. If you're planning a fall visit to Europe, by all means include the ISASC convention in your itinerary. Our European brethren know their metrology and how to build a convention around it.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN.

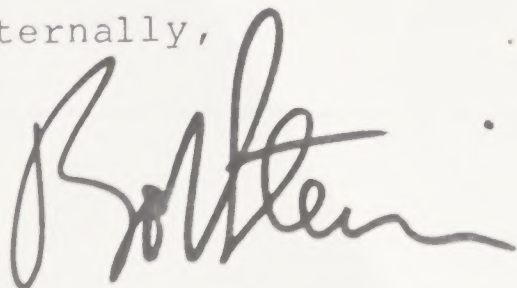
Somewhere around the time you receive this mailing, another similar but very important one will be reaching you, namely your dues statement for 1987. As you may know by now, dues collection is one of our more time-consuming (and irksome) efforts, and we're asking you to please lighten our burden and pay your dues promptly.

Enclosed with the statement you'll find our directory update card, which enables you to make changes of any sort in your listing in the 1987 directory, including the number and composition of your collection. Read the instructions carefully and then, if you choose to make changes, fill it out and return it with your dues payment. And thank you in advance for helping "the cause."

ADIEU FOR NOW...

and until we correspond again in January of 1987, my best wishes to one and all for a joyous holiday season and a most happy and healthy New Year.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert H. Allen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "A".